

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
BEFORE THE BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS AND INTERFERENCES

Appellants:	Sweet et al.	Examiner:	Hillery, Nathan
Serial No.:	10/608,590	Group Art Unit:	2176
Confirmation No.:	8455	Docket:	1846-34
Filed:	June 27, 2003	Dated:	August 10, 2009
For:	DETERMINATION OF MEMBER PAGES FOR A HYPERLINKED DOCUMENT WITH LINK AND DOCUMENT ANALYSIS		

Mail Stop Appeal Brief-Patents
Commissioner for Patents
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Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

REPLY BRIEF

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §41.41, Appellants file this Reply Brief in response to the Examiner's Answer of June 11, 2009. Appellants address particular points and continue to rely on the Arguments of their main Appeal Brief.

I. Neither Bharat nor Earl Provide the Step of “Grouping the Content”

As described in Appellants’ main Appeal Brief, the subject invention is directed to a methodology for assembling a document from content spanning multiple web-pages. The invention produces documents that are printable or viewable. With reference to claim 37, the main claim focused on by the Examiner in the Examiner’s Answer, claim 37 includes the step of:

grouping the content found in the resultant set of candidate document pages by an automated system into a document representation stored in memory by the automated system.

As admitted by the Examiner at p. 6 of the Examiner’s Answer, this step is not disclosed in Bharat. At p. 7, the Examiner asserted that Earl discloses this step. However, the Examiner is incorrect on this assertion.

As pointed out by the Examiner, Earl is directed to a method which identifies different types of links 202, 204 and graphically presents those links to a user. (Col. 2, ll. 46-58). As discussed at col. 1, ll. 13-35, Earl’s method is provided to avoid “going in circles” while reviewing an on-line document with a series of links. The distinguished links provide a user with the ability to recognize whether a link is within the same document or outside of the document. In any regard, the result of Earl is a presentation of the links.

As set forth above, claim 37 includes the step of “grouping the *content* found in the resultant set of candidate document pages by an automated system into a *document representation*”. Neither Bharat nor Earl group content from a set of determined hyperlinks into a document representation. As admitted by the Examiner, Bharat has no such provision.

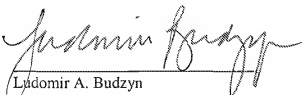
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Further, Earl only displays links. There is no collecting or grouping of content from the hyperlink in Earl. Earl and the subject invention are for different purposes. Specifically, Earl is directed to identifying the types of hyperlinks found in the document, while the subject invention is directed to a method of creating a document from content found in a group of hyperlinks. Claims 1 and 26, the other independent claims on appeal, also include the step of “grouping the content”.

II. Conclusion

Favorable action is earnestly solicited. It is respectfully submitted that claims 1, 26 and 37 are patentable over Bharat and Earl, each taken alone or in combination. It is respectfully requested that claims 1, 26 and 37 be found patentable along with dependent claims 2-25, 27-36 and 38-48.

Respectfully submitted,



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